

***Amendments to the Claims***

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1-17 (previously cancelled)

Claim 18 (currently amended): An illumination system that provides illumination for a platen in a print scanner, comprising:

an illumination source array that emits light from a plurality of discrete light sources;  
~~and~~

a light wedge having one end surface that receives light emitted from said illumination source array and a reflective surface that reflects light out of said light wedge toward the platen; and

a holographic diffuser provided near said light wedge such that light passing out from said light wedge passes through said diffuser before illuminating the platen,

~~whereby,~~ whereby uniform illumination is provided to the platen.

Claim 19 (cancelled)

Claim 20 (cancelled)

Claim 21 (currently amended): ~~The illumination system of claim 20, wherein said~~ An illumination system that provides illumination for a platen in a print scanner, comprising:

an illumination source array that emits light from a plurality of discrete light sources;

and

a light wedge having one end surface that receives light emitted from said illumination source array and a reflective surface that reflects light out of said light wedge toward the platen, wherein said reflective surface is a diffuse, reflective surface comprises one including a roughened surface of the light wedge coated by a layer of reflective paint,

whereby uniform illumination is provided to the platen.

Claim 22 (cancelled)

Claim 23 (original): The illumination system of claim 18, wherein said illumination source array comprises a plurality of sources that emit blue/green light.

Claim 24 (currently amended): ~~The illumination system of claim 18,~~ An illumination system that provides illumination for a platen in a print scanner, comprising:

an illumination source array that emits light from a plurality of discrete light sources,

wherein said plurality of sources are divided into at least a center region and a perimeter region, wherein the density of sources provided in said perimeter region is greater than in said center region; and

a light wedge having one end surface that receives light emitted from said illumination source array and a reflective surface that reflects light out of said light wedge toward the platen,

whereby, uniform illumination is provided to the platen.

Claim 25 (currently amended): The illumination system of claim ~~18~~ 24, wherein the intensity of each source can be independently controlled relative to other sources such that a flat, uniform illumination is provided to the platen.

Claim 26 (currently amended): ~~The illumination system of claim 18,~~ An illumination system that provides illumination for a platen in a print scanner, comprising:

an illumination source array that emits light from a plurality of discrete light sources;  
and

a light wedge having one end surface that receives light emitted from said illumination source array and a reflective surface that reflects light out of said light wedge toward the platen,

wherein said plurality of sources is divided into at least three groups in at least three respective zones, whereby, the intensity of each group of sources can be independently controlled relative to other groups such that a flat, uniform illumination is provided to the platen.

Claim 27 (currently amended): A method for providing efficient, uniform illumination to a platen, comprising:

arranging a plurality of discrete light sources into at least a center region and a perimeter region, wherein the density of sources provided in said perimeter region is greater than in said center region;

emitting light from [[a]] said plurality of discrete sources;

passing the emitted light through a light wedge to obtain diffuse light; and

illuminating the platen with the diffuse light such that an image of a print of a finger or palm placed on the platen can be obtained.

Claims 28-29 (previously cancelled)

Claim 30 (original): The method of claim 27, wherein said emitting step includes emitting blue/green light.

Claim 31 (cancelled)

Claim 32 (original): The method of claim 27, further comprising independently controlling the intensity of each source relative to other sources such that a flat, uniform illumination is provided to the platen.

Claim 33 (currently amended): ~~The method of claim 27, further comprising:~~ A method for providing efficient, uniform illumination to a platen, comprising:

arranging ~~a said~~ plurality of discrete light sources into at least three groups in at least three respective zones; ~~and~~

emitting light from said plurality of discrete sources;

passing the emitted light through a light wedge to obtain diffuse light;

independently controlling the intensity of each group of sources relative to other groups of sources such that a flat, uniform illumination is provided to the platen; and

illuminating the platen with the diffuse light such that an image of a print of a finger or palm placed on the platen can be obtained.

Claim 34 (previously cancelled)

Claim 35 (currently amended): For use in a print scanner, an illumination method for improving a range of grey scale shading, comprising:

emitting light in a blue/green spectrum from a plurality of discrete sources, wherein said plurality of sources are divided into at least a center region and a perimeter region, wherein the density of sources provided in said perimeter region is greater than in said center region; and

illuminating a platen, having an object with a pattern of ridges and valleys thereon, with at least part of the emitted light in the blue/green spectrum.

Claim 36 (original): The method of claim 35, wherein the blue/green spectrum comprises a single wavelength equal to or approximately equal to 510 nm or a narrowband of wavelengths that includes a wavelength of 510 nm.

Claim 37 (previously cancelled)

Claim 38 (new): The method of claim 35, wherein the intensity of each source can be independently controlled relative to other sources such that a flat, uniform illumination is provided to the platen.

Claim 39 (new): The method of claim 35, wherein said plurality of sources is divided into at least three groups in at least three respective zones, whereby the intensity of each group of sources can be independently controlled relative to other groups such that a flat, uniform illumination is provided to the platen.